

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cigarette comprising:
  - a tobacco rod;
  - a filter element connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element incorporating filter material and having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod;
  - a cavity within said filter material, and extending from the proximal end of the filter element; and
  - at least one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity.
2. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein said filter element comprises:
  - a longitudinally extending central portion;
  - a longitudinally extending outer portion of filter material positioned annularly around the central portion; and
  - a cavity having a structure defined by the inner central portion.
3. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the breakable capsule contains flavoring for mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.
4. The cigarette of Claim 2 wherein the cavity possesses an opening that is disposed in the end of the filter element proximal to the tobacco rod.
5. The cigarette of Claim 1 comprising one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity.
6. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein said central portion is crimped along an axial direction into a generally cross-shaped form.
7. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the cavity possesses a generally conical shape.

8. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the breakable capsule contains a component capable of altering the overall composition of mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.
9. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the cavity possesses a generally circular cross-sectional shape and a diameter of about 4 mm, and the capsule is generally spherical in shape and has a diameter of about 3.5 mm.
10. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the cavity possesses a longitudinal axis dimension of approximately half of the length of the filter element.
11. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the breakable capsule comprises:
  - an outer gelatin shell; and
  - an inner liquid composition contained in the outer gelatin shell, the inner liquid composition including at least one flavoring agent, and at least one diluting agent.
12. The cigarette of Claim 11 wherein the diluting agent is a medium chain triglyceride mixture.
13. The cigarette of Claim 1 further comprising tipping material connecting the tobacco rod and the filter element, wherein said tipping material includes a visual indicator of the position of the capsule within the filter element.
14. The cigarette of Claim 11 wherein the capsule has a diameter of at least about 3 mm.
15. The cigarette of Claim 2 wherein the central portion of the filter element is composed of cellulose acetate tow.
16. The cigarette of Claim 15 wherein the capsule has a diameter of less than about 5 mm.

17. The cigarette of Claim 2 wherein the outer portion of the filter element is composed of cellulose acetate tow.

18. The cigarette of Claim 1 further comprising a filter segment located at the end of the filter element distal from the tobacco rod.

19. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the breakable capsule comprises:  
an outer gelatin shell; and  
an inner liquid composition contained in the outer gelatin shell, the inner liquid composition being virtually absent of moisture.

20. The cigarette of Claim 19 wherein the outer gelatin shell consists essentially of gelatin.

21. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the breakable capsule contains a breath freshening agent.

22. The cigarette of Claim 1 wherein the filter element possesses an axially elongated inner filter portion having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod;

an axially elongated outer filter portion surrounding the inner filter portion, said outer member comprising filter material generally permeable to the passage of drawn mainstream smoke;

a cavity extending from the proximal end of the inner filter portion, said cavity having a crimped terminus within the filter element, and said cavity abutting one end of the tobacco rod; and

at least one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity.

23. A cigarette comprising:  
a tobacco rod;

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a first filter segment connected to the tobacco rod, said first filter segment having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod;

a cavity extending into the first filter segment from the end of the first filter segment distal from the tobacco rod;

a second filter segment positioned at the end of the filter element distal from the tobacco rod; and

at least one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity.

24. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein said first filter segment comprises:

a longitudinally extending central portion;

a longitudinally extending outer portion of filter material positioned annularly around the central portion; and

a cavity having a structure defined by the inner central portion.

25. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the breakable capsule contains flavoring for mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.

26. The cigarette of Claim 23 comprising one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity.

27. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein said central portion is crimped along an axial direction into a generally cross-shaped form.

28. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the cavity possesses a generally conical shape.

29. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the breakable capsule contains a component capable of altering the overall composition of mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.

30. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the cavity possesses a generally circular cross-sectional shape and a diameter of about 4 mm, and the capsule is generally spherical in shape and has a diameter of about 3.5 mm.
31. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the breakable capsule comprises:  
an outer gelatin shell; and  
an inner liquid composition contained in the outer gelatin shell, the inner liquid composition including at least one flavoring agent, and at least one diluting agent.
32. The cigarette of Claim 31 wherein the diluting agent is a medium chain triglyceride mixture.
33. The cigarette of Claim 31 further comprising tipping material connecting the tobacco rod and the filter element, wherein said tipping material includes a visual indicator of the position of the capsule within the filter element.
34. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the capsule has a diameter of at least about 3 mm.
35. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the central portion of the first filter segment is composed of cellulose acetate tow.
36. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the capsule has a diameter of less than about 5 mm.
37. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the outer portion of the first filter segment is composed of cellulose acetate tow.
38. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the breakable capsule comprises:  
an outer gelatin shell; and

an inner liquid composition contained in the outer gelatin shell, the inner liquid composition being virtually absent of moisture.

39. The cigarette of Claim 38 wherein the outer gelatin shell consists essentially of gelatin.

40. The cigarette of Claim 23 wherein the first and second filter segments both incorporate cellulose acetate tow.

41. A cigarette comprising:

a tobacco rod;

an axially elongated inner filter element incorporating at least one rupturable capsule composed of

an outer gelatin shell; and

an inner composition contained in the outer gelatin shell, the inner composition including at least one agent capable of modifying mainstream smoke produced by burning of the tobacco rod and drawn through the filter element.

42. The cigarette of Claim 41 wherein the inner composition includes at least one flavoring agent and at least one diluting agent.

43. The cigarette of Claim 41 wherein the inner composition includes at least one liquid flavoring agent and at least one liquid diluting agent.

44. The cigarette of Claim 41 wherein the capsule is generally spherical in shape.

45. The cigarette of Claim 44 wherein the capsule has a diameter of about 3 mm to about 4 mm.

46. The cigarette of Claim 43 wherein the diluting agent is a medium chain triglyceride mixture.